ABSTRACT

A gear mechanism includes a rotating input element, a rotating output element, and at least one first force transmission device arranged along a spiral line on a face of the input element. A second force transmission device is arranged along an encircling line on a face of the output element. The interaction of these force transmission devices transmits a turning moment from the input element to the output element, whereby this turning moment effects a rotating motion in the output element so that the rotational speed is lower than the rotational speed of the input element. A rotary encoder may be equipped with a gear mechanism of the aforementioned type.